GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:636
ANSWERED ON:20.07.2016
Demand and Supply of Uranium
Muddahanumegowda Shri S.P.

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a)whether there is a gap between demand and supply of uranium for the nuclear power plants of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c)the measures taken to meet the demand of uranium for smooth functioning of nuclear projects; and

(d)the extent to which these steps have been successful?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR, PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND PRIME MINISTER''S OFFICE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH):

(a) & (b)No, Sir. There are currently twenty one (21) reactors with an installed capacity of 5780 MW. Of these, thirteen (13) reactors with a capacity of 3380 MW are under IAEA Safeguards and use imported uranium which is available in adequate quantity. Eight (8) reactors with aggregate capacity of 2400 MW are fuelled by indigenous uranium. These reactors are now being operated close to their rated capacity. In addition, one unit (Kudankulam Unit-2) has also attained first criticality (start of controlled self-sustaining nuclear fission chain reaction in the Reactor for the first time) on July 10, 2016. This unit also uses imported fuel.

(c)The Government has taken measures to augment domestic uranium supply by opening of new mines and processing facilities and importing fuel for reactors under IAEA Safeguards.

(d)The steps have resulted in operation of nuclear power reactors at or close to their rated capacity.

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